

JUL 27 2004



Transportation
Security
Administration

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Conyers:

Thank you for your letter of February 13, 2004, cosigned by your congressional colleagues, regarding your concerns about the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) efforts to implement the Computer-Assisted Passenger Prescreening System II (CAPPS II). Please accept our apologies for the delayed response. This program, initiated by the Aviation and Transportation Security Act, would evaluate all passengers prior to boarding an aircraft to ensure that selected individuals and their property are adequately screened.

TSA continues to re-examine the policies and procedures underlying CAPPS II with an eye toward reshaping and repackaging the program. As TSA moves forward, we will fully engage the public through public rulemaking and other outreach efforts in order to address concerns regarding the appropriate balance between aviation security and civil liberties.

I hope this information is helpful. An identical response has been sent to each cosigner of your letter. If your staff needs further information or assistance, they are requested to call Mr. Peter A. Iovino, Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, at (571) 227-2717.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Stone".

David M. Stone
Assistant Secretary